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Message Text

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47
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01

AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02 SCI-06 AEC-11 SPM-01 DRC-01

/263 W
---------- 013008
R 231045Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8423
INFO USUN NEW YORK 172

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 2099

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, XA, XB, XR, UN, NP
SUBJECT: UNGA SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION --STEAMROLLER TACTICS

REF: (A) STATE 104050; (B) STATE 099106

SUMMARY: NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGES TACTICS SUCH AS EMPLOYED DURING UNGA SPECIAL SESSION POSE SERIOUS THREAT TO CONTINUED VIABILITY OF ORGANIZATION AND SAYS NEPAL WILL GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

1. I CALLED ON FONMIN KARKI MAY 21 AND MADE STRONG PRESENTATION BASED REF A AND AMBASSADOR SCALI'S MAY 1 UNGA STATEMENT. TO UNDERSCORE POINTS I SAID THAT IN ALL THE YEARS DURING WHICH I HAVE DEALT WITH OR FOLLOWED UN AFFAIRS, ALMOST FROM THE OUTSET, I HAD NEVER BEFORE SEEN OFFICIAL EXPRESSIONS OF SUCH GRAVE MISGIVINGS ON PART OF U.S.

2. KARKI LISTENED ATTENTIVELY AND SYMPATHETICALLY. HE SAID HE
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HAD ATTENDED ONLY OPENING SESSIONS UNGA SS, HAD NOT THEN BEEN

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AWARE OF STEAMROLLER TACTICS, AND BECAUSE OF HIS PREOCCUPATION WITH CONCURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES AS FINANCE MINISTER HAD NOT BEEN AVAILABLE FOR BRIEFINGS BY MFA JOINT SECRETARY (UDDHAV DEO BHATT) WHO ATTENDED MOST OF SESSIONS. KARKI, WHO HAS IN PAST COMPLAINED TO ME OF STEAMROLLER TACTICS EMPLOYED IN VARIOUS NON-ALIGNED FORA, SAID THAT IF THESE TACTICS HAVE INDEED BEEN TRANSPLANTED TO UN, THERE IS SURELY REASON FOR SERIOUS CONCERN OVER FUTURE EFFECTIVENESS OF UN MECHANISMS. AS UNDERDEVELOPED AND LANDLOCKED COUNTRY, HE SAID, NEPAL HAS SERIOUS STAKE IN CONTINUING VIABILITY OF UN, JUST AS DO SUPER POWERS. KARKI SAID HE WOULD GIVE THESE CONSIDERATIONS SERIOUS THOUGHT.

3. SHORTLY AFTER RETURN FROM CALL ON KARKI, JOINT SECRETARY UDDHAV DEO BHATT TELEPHONED EMBOFF WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED ME AND ASKED EMBOFF TO PRESENT HIM WITH SIMILAR BRIEFING.

4. EMBOFF FOUND BHATT WORKING ON WRITTEN REPORT OF UNGA SS TO PRESENT TO KARKI. BHATT CONCEDED THAT NACG AND G-77 HAD USED STEAMROLLER TACTICS ON SOME MEMBERS THEIR OWN GROUPS DURING SPECIAL SESSION -- TO THE DETRIMENT OF NEPAL IN SOME INSTANCES. ALTOGETHER, HE SAID, TREATMENT OF NEPAL DEL BY THESE GROUPS HAD BEEN "SHABBY." STILL, BHATT ASSERTED THAT HE FOUND MERIT IN MANY OF THE POSITIONS PUSHED THROUGH SS BY "EXTREMIST" GROUPS. HE CHARACTERIZED AMB SCALI'S SPEECH AS "TYPICAL OF DEVELOPED COUNTRY POSITIONS." ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, HE AGREED WITH OUR VIEW THAT SUCH TACTICS HAVE NO PLACE IN UN, BUT BECAUSE SUCH TACTICS PRODUCE "IMPRACTICAL" RESULTS. WITHOUT SUPPORT OF DEVELOPED NATIONS, HE SAID, MANY OF THESE MEASURES HAVE NO HOPE OF ATTAINMENT.

5. COMMENT: OUR CONCERNS HAVE BEEN FIRMLY REGISTERED, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW UP. ATTITUDE EXPRESSED BY JOINT SECRETARY BHATT, WHICH RELATES TO OVERALL PROBLEM PRESENTED REF B, IS ENCOUNTERED AMONG A NUMBER OF MORE JUNIOR OFFICIALS HERE. AS EMBASSY HAS NOTED BEFORE, EVEN IN NEPAL WHICH HAS TRADITIONALLY TAKEN MODERATE POSITION ON MANY INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, THERE IS A TENDENCY TO ACQUIESCE IN STRONG-ARM TACTICS OF MORE RADICAL NONALIGNED. ON ECONOMIC ISSUES IN PARTICULAR, SUBSTANCE OF NON-ALIGNED RESOLUTIONS OFTEN COMMENDS ITSELF TO THESE LOWER RANKING OFFICIALS AND TO THEM OBJECTIONABLE TACTICS
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OF PUSHING DEVELOPED NATIONS AROUND SEEMS LESS IMPORTANT THAN GETTING ON RECORD STRONG STATEMENT OF THIRD WORLD VIEWS.
CARGO

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